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MANGA UNDERGROUND

INSIDER'S SITE FOR MANGA

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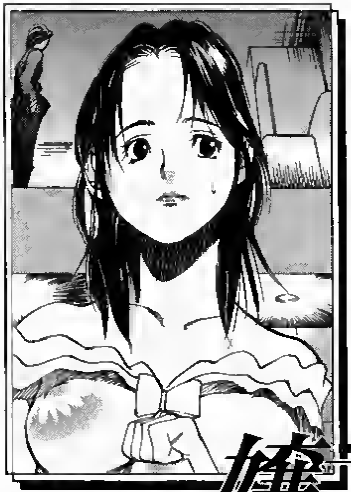
#2 AYA'S MIND

THE MANAGER ASKED TO SEE ME...
HE WILL DECIDE IF I CAN WORK HERE.
I WONDER WHAT HE IS LIKE.
THE MANAGER OF THE HOSTESS CLUB.
I HOPE HE IS NOT LIKE THIS.
EXCUSE ME!

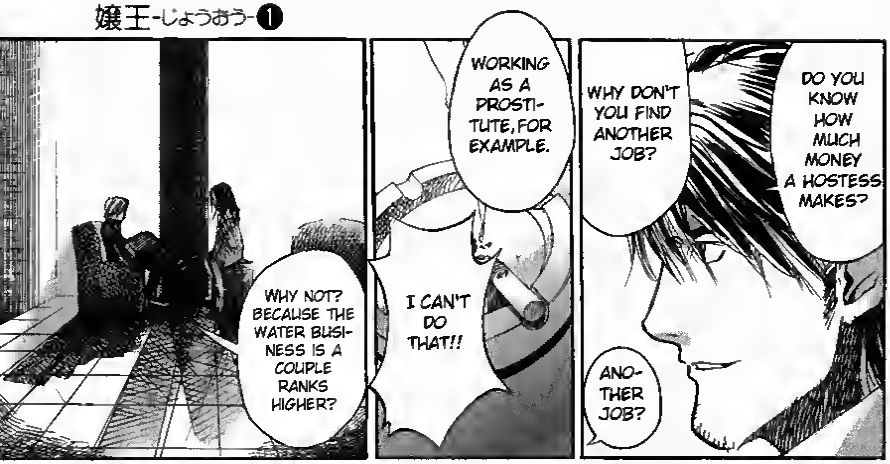
LOOKING PRETTY AS USUAL SHIZUKA CHAN
THE MANA-GER?
SHE GOT CALLED UP BY THE MANA-GER.
HMM, WHERE'S AYA?
AYA..
HE HAS A THING FOR LOOKING AT GIRLS..
IT'S RARE... THE MANAGER WITH A NEW GIRL... SHE'S NOT EVEN OFFICIAL YET.

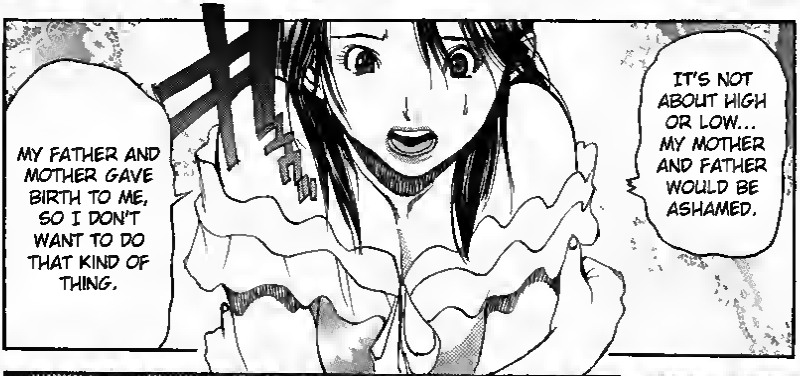


# 嬢王

I'M THE MANAGER, NISHIZAKI TETSUYA.
DON'T I LOOK LIKE A MANAGER?
WHAT?
WHY DOES YOUR FACE LOOK SO SURPRISED?
WHAT, THIS PERSON IS THE MANAGER?
NO, NO, NO, THAT'S NOT IT.
AND WHAT IS YOUR FULL NAME?
YES!
SO, YOU'RE GOING TO USE YOUR REAL NAME AT THE CLUB?

YOUR FATHER'S COMPANY WENT BANKRUPT AND HE IS NOW IN THE HOSPITAL... YOU CAME TO THIS BUSINESS TO PAY OFF THE DEBT AND THE HOSPITAL PAYMENT...
HOW MUCH MONEY DO YOU NEED?
150 MILLION YEN.
IT'S FUJISAKI AYA!


DO YOU KNOW HOW MUCH MONEY A HOSTESS MAKES?
WHY DON'T YOU FIND ANOTHER JOB?
ANO-THER JOB?
WORKING AS A PROSTI-TUTE, FOR EXAMPLE.
I CAN'T DO THAT!!
WHY NOT? BECAUSE THE WATER BUSI-NESS IS A COUPLE RANKS HIGHER?


IT'S NOT ABOUT HIGH OR LOW... MY MOTHER AND FATHER WOULD BE ASHAMED.
MY FATHER AND MOTHER GAVE BIRTH TO ME, SO I DON'T WANT TO DO THAT KIND OF THING.

AND I'M STILL...
ALRIGHT, I GOT IT.

SHE MEANS SHE'S "STILL" A VIRGIN?
MILD SEVEN
WHY DO YOU NEED TO PAY OFF THE DEBT?
WHAT ?

ACCORDING TO THE LAW, A CHILD DOES NOT HAVE TO PAY OFF THE PARENT'S DEBT. YOU CAN RUN AWAY AT ANY TIME, CAN'T YOU?
THAT'S...
NOT RIGHT!
IF MY PARENTS ARE SUFFERING...
THEN I SHOULD BE SUFFERING, TOO. ISN'T THAT WHAT YOU WOULD NORMALLY THINK?
NORMAL!?
YES, THEY'RE MY PARENTS AND WE ARE A FAMILY!!

I WAS RAISED WELL BY MY FATHER AND MOTHER. THEY PROTECTED ME AND TREATED ME.
FAMILY?
IS THAT THE REASON WHY YOU WANT TO SUFFER FOR YOUR PARENTS?
I KNOW THERE WERE HARDSHIPS IN RAISING ME,
BUT MY PARENTS NEVER SAID A THING.
BUT NOW MY FATHER IS SICK, AND THE HAPPINESS WE HAD IS STARTING TO FALL APART.
OF COURSE THE PEOPLE IN MY FAMILY ARE THE ONLY ONES RELATED BY BLOOD.
NOW IT'S MY TURN TO WORK HARD!
IS FAMILY THAT IMPORTANT?

NAKABOU AND MY MOTHER...
SHE WORKED AS A HOSTESS.
MET EACH OTHER IN GINZA.

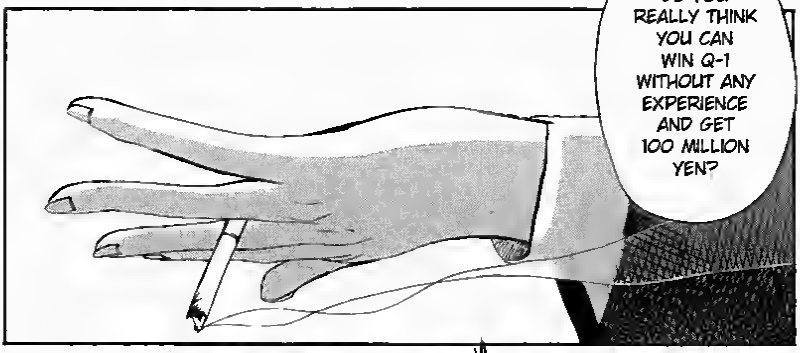
RIGHT AFTER I WAS BORN, NAKABOU LEFT MY MOTHER.
USING NAKABOU'S POWER, MOTHER STARTED A BOUTIQUE COMPANY.

SHE DIDN'T ASK HELP FROM NAKA-BOU.
SHE JUST WANTED HIM TO KNOW THAT I EXISTED... A WOMAN'S PRIDE.
WHEN I WAS IN HIGH SCHOOL,
THE STOCK MARKET CRASHED AND THE APPAREL BUSINESS WENT DOWN WITH IT.
EVEN AFTER THEN, MOTHER SAID SHE DIDN'T WANT HELP FROM A GUY THAT LEFT HER.
KENJI... USE THIS TO EAT DINNER.
YES... BEFORE THE END OF TODAY
THAT'S WHEN MOTHER'S SUFFERING STARTED.

I WAS STILL A STUDENT THAT TIME, IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO SAVE HER.
YOUR CONFIRMATION, PLEASE
IT'S MY MOTHER...
BUT THE FACT THAT I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING, AND THE REGRET, STILL HAD AN IMPACT ON ME...

I'M.. TRYING TO GO TO A CLUB THAT IS GOING TO DO THE Q-1.
WHAT!?
IS SHE TRYING TO DO WHAT I COULDN'T DO?
UMMM...

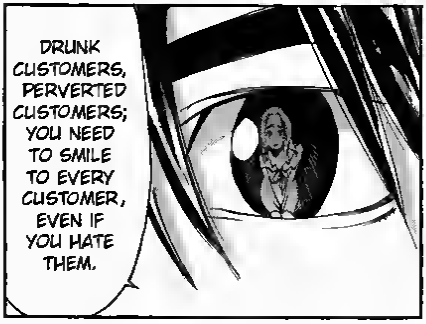
THIS GIRL DOESN'T KNOW...
THAT I'M ALSO THE MANAGER OF LEGEND.
EVERYONE IS TALKING ABOUT IT IN ROPPONGI. IT'S A CLUB CALLED LEGEND.
.....
IF I BECOME THE NUMBER ONE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, I CAN WIN 100 MILLION YEN AND..
ARE YOU SERIOUSLY THINKING OF DOING THAT?
YES!
IS THAT THE REASON WHY YOU CAME TO THIS BUSINESS?


DO YOU REALLY THINK YOU CAN WIN Q-1 WITHOUT ANY EXPERIENCE AND GET 100 MILLION YEN?

DAMN.... IF HOSTESSES...
THAT HAVE BEEN DOING THIS BUSINESS HEARD THIS, THEY WOULD ALL LAUGH.

YE.... YES!

MAKING DRINKS, LIGHTING CIGARETTES, CHANGING TOPICS OF CONVERSATION WITH DIFFERENT CUSTOMERS.


DRUNK CUSTOMERS, PERVERTED CUSTOMERS; YOU NEED TO SMILE TO EVERY CUSTOMER, EVEN IF YOU HATE THEM.

NOT JUST SITTING NEXT TO THE CUSTOMER!! IT'S WAY HARDER THAN IT LOOKS!!
WATER BUSINESS IS
SHE THINKS SHE CAN WIN Q-1... AND WIN 100 MILLION YEN WITHOUT EXPERIENCE.

I PRO-
MISE...
THIS
IS....
I..
I WILL
WORK
REALLY
HARD.

SHE IS
TRYING
TO
PROVE
HER
POINT
AND HAS
A LOT OF
DEDICA-
TION.
SHE IS
ACTU-
ALLY
TRYING
REALLY
HARD.

THIS IS THE ONLY
WAY TO SAVE MY
FAMILY.

I KNOW
IT'S NOT EASY
AND I KNOW
I'M IGNORANT
BUT THIS IS
THE ONLY
CHOICE
I HAVE.

ALRIGHT, I'LL ADMIT THAT YOU HAVE DEDICATION.
BUT THAT ALONE ISN'T ENOUGH IN THIS WORLD.

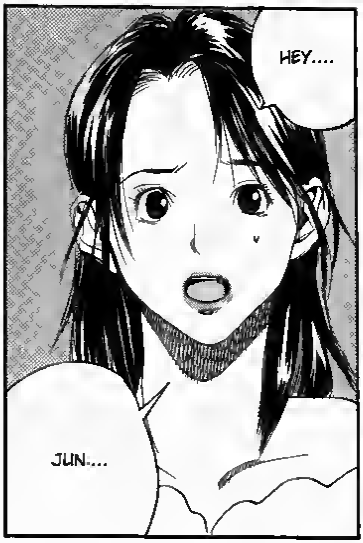
LET'S DO A TEST TO FIND OUT IF YOU CAN WORK IN THIS CLUB.
TODAY IS YOUR FIRST DAY; IF YOU CAN GET 10 CHOSEN REQUESTS BEFORE THE CLOSING TIME, THEN YOU CAN WORK HERE.

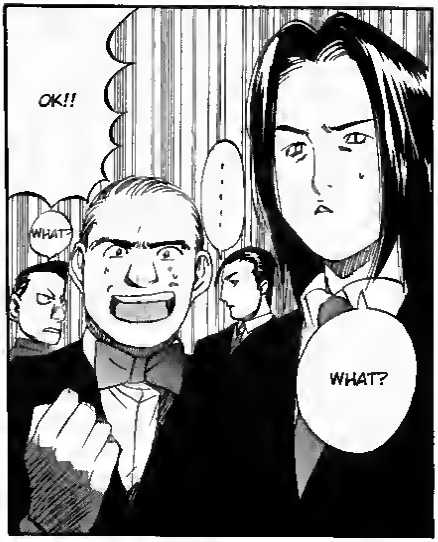
THAT'S IT. NOW, GO.

AYA!!
I HEARD THAT YOU GOT CALLED UP BY THE MANAGER... WHAT HAPPENED?
HE SAID IF I GET 10 CHOSEN REQUESTS, I CAN START WORKING HERE.
WHAT.
!?
HE CALLED HER TO THE SVR*... IT'S GOTTA BE SOME SORT OF TEST.
ISN'T THE MANAGER TO HARD ON HER?
10 REQUESTS ON THE FIRST DAY.

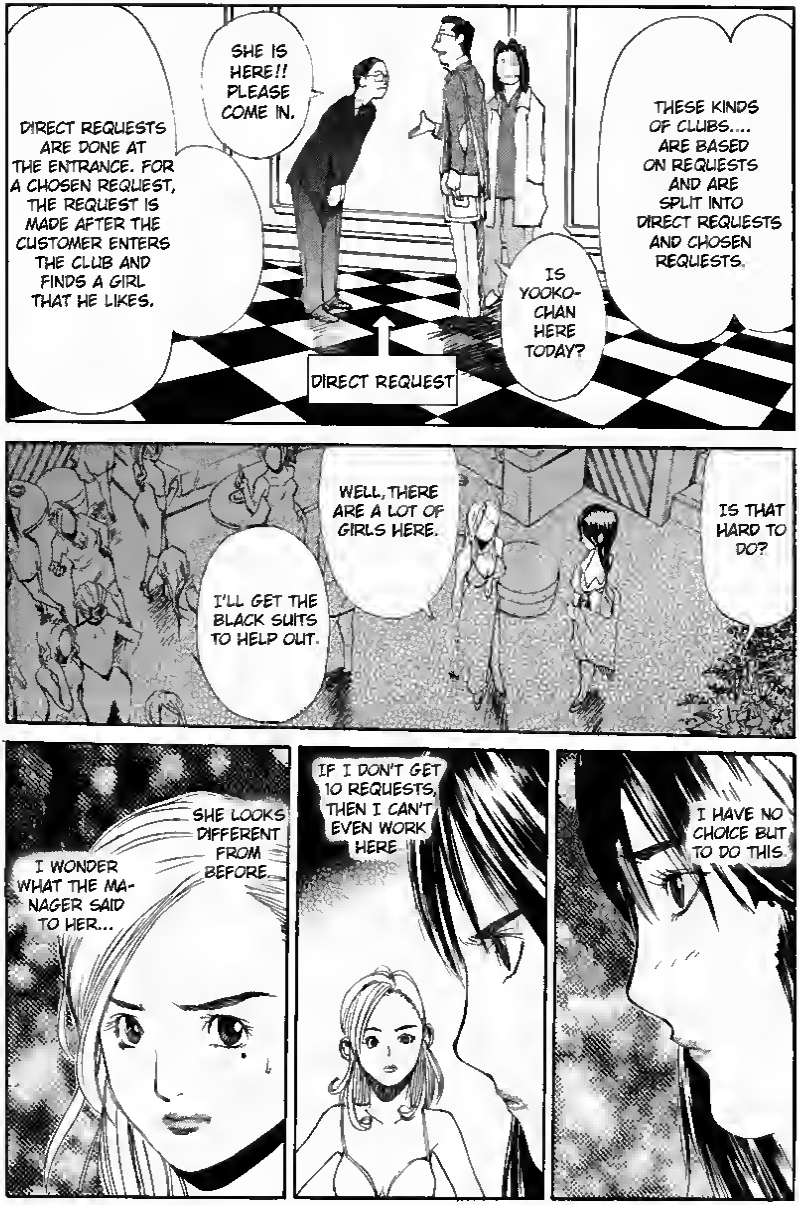
 NOTE: *SVR = SPECIAL VIP ROOM

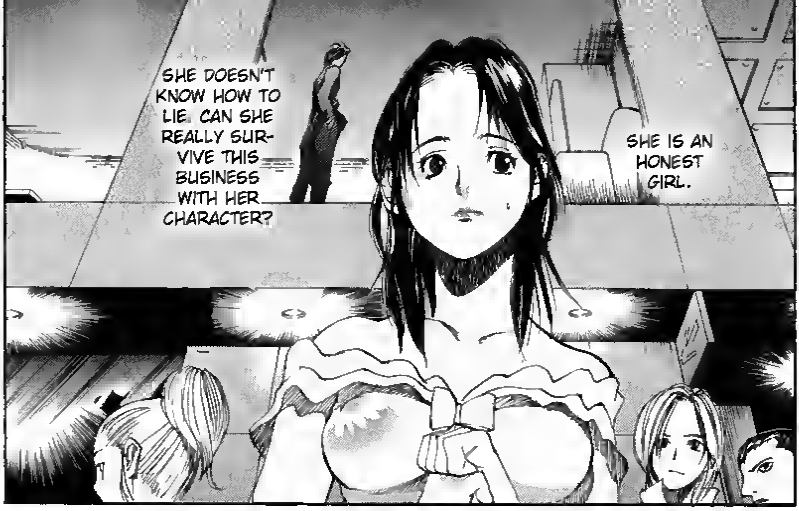
RIGHT. I BET THAT'S IT!
HEY GUYS, IF YOU FIND A FREE CUSTOMER, TRY TO GIVE THEM TO THIS GIRL!!
SO SHE CAN HAVE AS MUCH OF A CHANCE AS SHE CAN!!


HEY....
JUN....


OK!!
WHAT?
.....
WHAT?

SHIZUKA!!
YOU CAN'T CALL ME JUN INSIDE THE CLUB!!
AND WHAT IS IT, AYA?
I WANT YOU TO TEACH ME HOW TO MAKE DRINKS...
ALRIGHT I CAN DO THAT.
AND WHAT ARE CHOSEN REQUESTS?
WHAT DID THE MANAGER MEAN BY 10?
WELL I GUESS IT'S NORMAL THAT YOU DON'T KNOW.

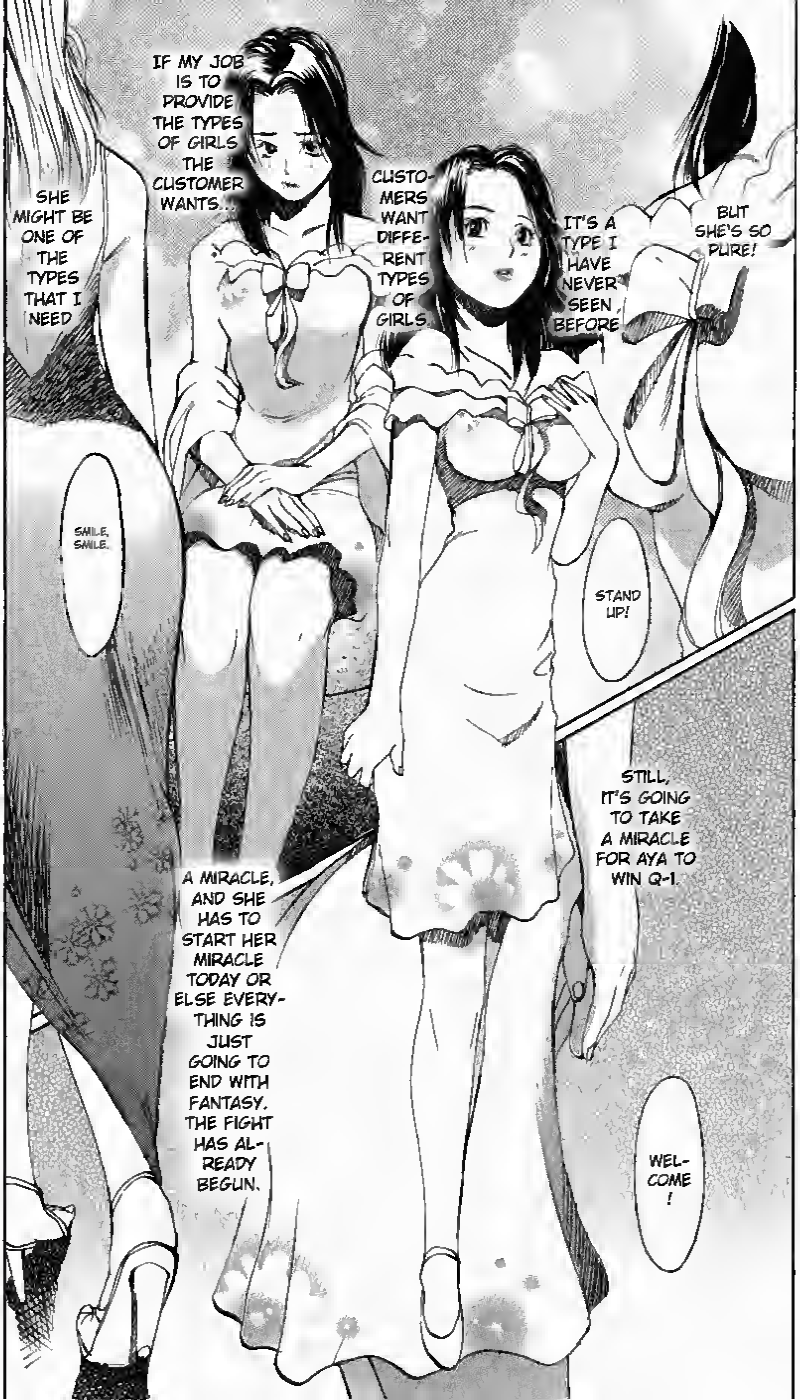

DIRECT REQUESTS ARE DONE AT THE ENTRANCE. FOR A CHOSEN REQUEST, THE REQUEST IS MADE AFTER THE CUSTOMER ENTERS THE CLUB AND FINDS A GIRL THAT HE LIKES.
SHE IS HERE!! PLEASE COME IN.
DIRECT REQUEST
IS YOOKO-CHAN HERE TODAY?
THESE KINDS OF CLUBS.... ARE BASED ON REQUESTS AND ARE SPLIT INTO DIRECT REQUESTS AND CHOSEN REQUESTS.
I'LL GET THE BLACK SUITS TO HELP OUT.
WELL, THERE ARE A LOT OF GIRLS HERE.
IS THAT HARD TO DO?
I WONDER WHAT THE MANAGER SAID TO HER...
SHE LOOKS DIFFERENT FROM BEFORE.
IF I DON'T GET 10 REQUESTS, THEN I CAN'T EVEN WORK HERE
I HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO DO THIS.


SHE DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO LIE. CAN SHE REALLY SURVIVE THIS BUSINESS WITH HER CHARACTER?
SHE IS AN HONEST GIRL.

DONE THROUGH LIES AND DECEPTIONS AND A LOT OF DIRTY WORK.
WATER BUSINESS IS...
YOU FOOL, YOU GET FOOLED. YOU PLAY AND YOU GET PLAYED.

A GIRL CAN GO WITHOUT GETTING CAUGHT. THAT'S THE SKILL YOU NEED.
IT'S HOW LONG

IF A CUSTOMER SUSPECTS THAT HE IS GETTING LIED TO OR GETTING PLAYED, THEY WILL LEAVE.
THERE'S ALWAYS A LIMIT


IF MY JOB IS TO PROVIDE THE TYPES OF GIRLS THE CUSTOMER WANTS.
SHE MIGHT BE ONE OF THE TYPES THAT I NEED
CUSTOMERS WANT DIFFERENT TYPES OF GIRLS
IT'S A TYPE I HAVE NEVER SEEN BEFORE
BUT SHE'S SO PURE!
SMILE. SMILE.
STAND UP!
STILL, IT'S GOING TO TAKE A MIRACLE FOR AYA TO WIN Q-1.
A MIRACLE, AND SHE HAS TO START HER MIRACLE TODAY OR ELSE EVERYTHING IS JUST GOING TO END WITH FANTASY. THE FIGHT HAS ALREADY BEGUN.
WELCOME!

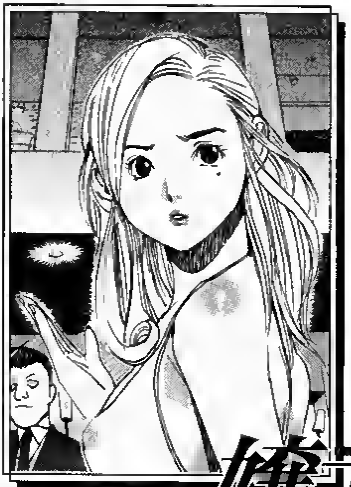
WHEN ARE WE GOING TO ACTUALLY GET SOME SUSHI HERE?
DO YOU LIKE RUS-SIAN?
COME ON NOW
NO.
WHAT? WHAT'S THAT ABOUT.
SO YOU BROKE IT OFF WITH YOUR GIRL
REALLY ...

YOU SHOULD JUST ENJOY OUR CLUB MEETS
IF SHE ASKS YOU TO HELP WITH THE DEBT, YOU ARE OUT. BACK OFF MAN. BACK OFF.
SHE IS HELPING HER PARENT'S WITH THEIR DEBTS.

SINCE IT'S YOUR FIRST DAY IN THE CLUB, I'LL TAKE YOU SOME-WHERE SPECIAL
SOME-WHERE SPECIAL?

Club
P ISSI
WELCOME, MR. OOUCHI
SHIZUKA-CHAN, PLEASE
RIGHT AWAY
IT'S REALLY EXPENSIVE HERE
OOUCHI-SAN
WHAT WERE YOU DOING? HOW MANY WEEKS HAS IT BEEN?
OH, HERE IS OUR NEWEST GIRL
NICE TO MEET YOU.
!!

AYA!!
NAOKI!!
YOU WORK IN THE WATER BUSI-NESS?!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT, AYA!



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